context of globalization and corporate/commercial competition being observed during the recent times. The Committee drew the attention of the executive and the judiciary to arrive at a decision regarding differential court fees for the Commercial/corporate matters immediately; and to amend the Supreme Court Rules, High Court Rules and other Court fees Acts accordingly. The Law Commission has, therefore, been requested to consider this and submit its recommendations.

Disclosure of assets by JUDGES

373. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that divergent views have been expressed by different High Courts on the issue of disclosure of assets by judges and bringing it under the purview of Right to Information Act;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to work out a consensus on the issue within the ambit of the Constitution of India?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY) : (a) and (b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) The Government is considering to bring in a comprehensive legislation on the issue of Accountability of Judges wherein it is also proposed to deal with the subject of declaration of assets by judges.

GSI's Role in Identification of Mineral Reserves

374. DR. ABHISHEK MANU SINGHVI:
SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA:
Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the profile of Geological Survey of India (GSI) with regard to locating or identifying new minerals, etc.;

(b) whether there is continuous upgradation of the technology as per international state-of-art achievements in this regard;

(c) whether any quantification of total mineral reserves in India has been done; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE) : (a) Geological Survey of India (GSI) is the principal agency for locating or Identification of new mineral deposits in the country with a mandate to explore (through ground, airborne, satellite and marine surveys) and scientifically assess mineral and energy resources. Exploration carried out by GSI in the country has augmented manifold the resources of a number of important minerals like non-coking coal, iron ore, bauxite, gold, basemetal, chromite, platinoid group of elements (PGE), molybdenum, dolomite, limestone, manganese, magnesite, ball clay, bentonite etc.

(b) Yes, Sir. There is continuous upgradation of technology in GSI, particularly in respect of photogeology and remote sensing work, field survey, ground geophysical survey, aerogeophysical survey, marine survey, drilling operations, laboratory studies & research projects, information technology etc. GSI is developing expertise in magnetotelluric survey and Hyperspectral mapping at present.

(c) and (d) GSI carries out regional exploration for minerals and quantifies the resource of the minerals investigated. Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM) prepares the inventory of mineral reserves of country from its own data and the information made available by Mineral Exploration Corporation Limited, State Directorates of Geology and Mining and other exploration agencies. The reserve of major minerals in India (as on 01.04.2005), (Source: IBM Year Book, 2007) is as under:

Sl.No.	Ore / Mineral	Reserve (in million tonnes)
1.	Copper ore	369.49
2,	Lead-Zinc ore	125.75
3.	Iron ore, Haematite	7004.16
4.	Iron ore, Magnetite	58.50
5.	Manganese ore	138.15
6.	Bauxite	899.38
7.	Limestone	12715.31
8	Dolomite	985.15
9.	Gold Ore	19.25
10.	Chromite	66.12
11.	Molybdenum	1.5

In addition the Annual Review of GSI (2009) gives the reserves of coal and lignite as under:

Sl.No.	Ore / Mineral	Reserve tonnes (in million tonnes)
1.	Coal	267210
2.	Lignite	39070

Promotion of small scale mining

375. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether, as enunciated in the National Mineral Policy, 2008, efforts would be made to promote small scale mining of small deposits;

(b) if so, the steps taken in this regard especially in Jharkhand; and